

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the above-referenced application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A computer implemented method comprising:

receiving data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

analyzing said visual form of data using a template and identifying at least some of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

storing the identified content data.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising normalizing the data representing the visual form of data.

3. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the data is normalized in accordance with a displayed form of the visual form of data.

4. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the visual form of data is characterized

by a plurality of dimensions characterized by at least two coordinate systems, wherein normalizing the data representing the visual form of data includes converting values expressed in the two coordinate system into a common coordinate system.

5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the common coordinate system is the coordinate system of a displayed form of the visual form of data.

6. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the template includes at least one extraction instruction for identifying said at least some of the content data from the received data, and the extraction instruction includes information indicating location of at least some of the content data based on the common coordinate system.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the data representing the visual form of data comprises data in a format required by an operating system layer for outputting the visual form of data by a printer.

8. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the operating system layer is Windows operating system and the data representing the visual form of data is a Windows metafile.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the template includes at least one extraction instruction for identifying said at least some of the content data from the received data.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the visual form of data is characterized by a plurality of dimensions characterized by a coordinate system and the extraction instruction includes information indicating location of the desired data based on the coordinate system.

11. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the visual form of data is characterized by a plurality of dimensions and the extraction instruction includes information with respect to location of a reference marker and a direction in one of the plurality of dimensions,

wherein identifying at least some of the content data includes searching in the direction for identifying at least some of the content data in the direction.

12. (original) The method of claim 9 further comprising:
displaying a sample visual form of data,
receiving data from a user indicating location of data selected by the user in the displayed sample visual form of data, and
forming the extraction instruction based on location data identifying the location of the data selected by the user.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 further comprising:
storing the extraction instruction.

14. (original) The method of claim 13 further comprising:

storing the extraction instruction in association with data representing the sample visual form of data.

15. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the received data further represents a plurality of visual forms of data.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein storing the identified content data further includes:

storing the identified content data in association with data representing a corresponding one of a plurality of visual forms of data.

17. (previously presented) Computer readable media containing a computer program comprising instructions for:

receiving data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

analyzing said visual form of data using a template and identifying at least some of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format are different from said template; and

storing the identified content data.

18. (previously presented) Computer system comprising:

a input port that receives data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

a processor that analyzes said visual form of data using a template and identifies at least some of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

a storage media that stores the identified content data.

19. (previously presented) A method comprising:

transmitting data representing a computer program comprising instructions for:

receiving data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

analyzing said visual form of data using a template and identifying at least some of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

storing the identified content data.

20-24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) A computer implemented method comprising:

receiving data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

analyzing said visual form of data using a template and identifying at least some of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

initiating performance of an action based on results of said identifying of at least some of the content data.

26. (previously presented) Computer readable media containing a computer program comprising instructions for:

receiving data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

analyzing said visual form of data using a template and identifying at least some of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data , wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

initiating performance of an action based on results of said identifying at least some of the content data.

27. (previously presented) Computer system comprising:

an input port that receives data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data; and

a processor that analyzes said visual form of data using a template and identifies at least some of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data and initiates performance of an action based on results of said identification of at least some of the content data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template.

28-49. (canceled)

50. (Currently Amended) A method ~~executed in a computer system~~ for processing data comprising:

receiving data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

analyzing said visual form of data using a template and identifying at least some of the content data in accordance with said template having an extraction instruction after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

storing the identified content data as at least one tag value.

51. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein the visual form of data is characterized by at least one of a plurality of dimensions and the extraction instruction includes information with respect to location of a reference marker and a direction in at least one of said plurality of dimensions, and wherein identifying at least some of the content data includes searching in the direction for identifying at least some of the content data in the direction.

52. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50 further comprising:
creating said template.

53. (previously presented) The method of Claim 52, further comprising:
editing said template.

54. (previously presented) The method of Claim 53, wherein said editing said template further comprises:

editing said extraction instruction included in said template.

55. (previously presented) The method of Claim 52, further comprising:
displaying a sample visual form of data;
receiving user location data indicating a location of data selected by a user in the displayed sample visual form of data; and

forming the extraction instruction based on location data identifying the location of the data selected by the user.

56. (previously presented) The method of Claim 55, further comprising:
storing the extraction instruction.

57. (previously presented) The method of Claim 56, further comprising:
storing the extraction instruction in association with data representing the sample visual form of data used during creating said template.

58. (previously presented) The method of Claim 57, wherein storing the identified content data further includes:

storing the identified content data in association with data representing a corresponding one of a plurality of visual forms of data.

59. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, further comprising:
normalizing the data representing the visual form of data.

60. (previously presented) The method of Claim 59, further comprising:
translating coordinate references to coordinate references of a display system.

61. (previously presented) The method of Claim 59, further comprising:
scaling text strings in accordance with a display device.

62. (previously presented) The method of Claim 59, further comprising:
joining and splitting text.

63. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein the extraction instruction locates data in a report area and inserts the data located into a selected tag in association with a report corresponding to the visual form of data.

64. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein the extraction instruction locates data in a direction relative to a selected reference point in the report and inserts the data located into a selected data in association with a report corresponding to the visual form of data.

65. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein the extraction

instruction determines whether at least one selected word is within a report corresponding to the visual form of data and accordingly sets a boolean tag in association with said report.

66. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein the extraction instruction inserts data into a selected tag in association with a report corresponding to the visual form of data based on data included in the report.

67. (Currently Amended) A method ~~executed in a computer system~~ for processing data comprising:

receiving data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

applying a template to the visual form of data;

analyzing said visual form of data using said template and identifying a portion of the content data in accordance with said template after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, said template including extraction instructions indicating how to extract content data from the visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

extracting a tag value for at least one tag identified in said template.

68. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, further comprising:

applying the template to previously stored data.

69. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, further comprising:

applying the template to data in connection with a print operation.

70. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, further comprising:

storing said tag value in association with a report corresponding to said visual form of data.

71. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, wherein the visual form of data is characterized by at least one of a plurality of dimensions and the extraction instruction includes information with respect to location of a reference marker and a direction in at least one of said plurality of dimensions.

and wherein identifying said portion of the content data includes searching in the direction for identifying said portion of the content data in the direction.

72. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67 further comprising:
creating said template.

73. (previously presented) The method of Claim 72, further comprising:
editing said template.

74. (previously presented) The method of Claim 73, wherein said editing said template further comprises:
editing said extraction instruction included in said template.

75. (previously presented) The method of Claim 73, further comprising:
displaying a sample visual form of data;
receiving user location data indicating a location of data selected by a user in the

displayed sample visual form of data; and

forming the extraction instruction based on location data identifying the location of the data selected by the user.

76. (previously presented) The method of Claim 75, further comprising:
storing the extraction instruction.

77. (previously presented) The method of Claim 76, further comprising:
storing the extraction instruction in association with data representing the sample visual form of data used during creating said template.

78. (previously presented) The method of Claim 77, wherein storing the identified content data further includes:
storing the identified content data in association with data representing a corresponding one of a plurality of visual forms of data.

79. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, further comprising:
normalizing the data representing the visual form of data.

80. (previously presented) The method of Claim 79, further comprising:
translating coordinate references to coordinate references of a display system.

81. (previously presented) The method of Claim 79, further comprising:

scaling text strings in accordance with a display device.

82. (previously presented) The method of Claim 79, further comprising:
joining and splitting text.

83. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, wherein the extraction instruction locates data in a report area and inserts the data located into a selected tag in association with a report corresponding to the visual form of data.

84. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, wherein the extraction instruction locates data in a direction relative to a selected reference point in the report and inserts the data located into a selected data in association with a report corresponding to the visual form of data.

85. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, wherein the extraction instruction determines whether at least one selected word is within a report corresponding to the visual form of data and accordingly sets a boolean tag in association with said report.

86. (previously presented) The method of Claim 67, wherein the extraction instruction inserts data into a selected tag in association with a report corresponding to the visual form of data based on data included in the report.

87. (previously presented) A system for processing data comprising:

a data receiver that receives data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually displayed, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

a template runner that applies a template to said visual form of the data and analyzes said visual form of data using said template and identifies a portion of the content data used in generating at least one tag value after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

a database in which said template is stored.

88. (previously presented) The system of Claim 87, further comprising:

a template builder that creates said template and stores said template to said database.

89. (previously presented) The system of Claim 88, wherein said template includes at least one extraction instruction indicating a location of said portion of the content data in accordance with said visual form of data.

90. (previously presented) The system of Claim 89, wherein the visual form of data is characterized by at least one of a plurality of dimensions and the extraction instruction includes information with respect to a location of a reference marker and a direction in one of a plurality of dimensions, and said template runner searches in the direction for identifying said portion of content data in the direction.

91. (previously presented) The system of Claim 90, wherein said template builder is used to edit and review the extraction instructions included in said template.

92. (previously presented) A computer program product used to process data comprising:

machine executable code that receives data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

machine executable code that analyzes said visual form of data using a template and identifies at least some of the content data in accordance with said template having an extraction instruction after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

machine executable code that stores the identified content data as at least one tag value.

93. (previously presented) A computer program product used to process data in a computer system comprising:

machine executable code that receives data representing a visual form of data comprising content data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually represented, wherein said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data;

machine executable code that applies a template to the visual form of data;

machine executable code that analyzes said visual form of data using said template and identifies a portion of the content data in accordance with said template, said template including extraction instructions indicating how to extract content data from the visual form of data after said format data is applied to said content data to produce said visual form of data, wherein said content data and said format data are different from said template; and

machine executable code that extracts a tag value for at least one tag identified in said template.

94. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said visual form of data represents at least one of a display format and a print format of said content data, and said analyzing applies said template to one of said display format and said print format and identifies a portion of said content data when said one of said display format and said print format is produced by applying said format data to said content data.

95. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein said visual form of data represents at least one of a display format and a print format of said content data, and said analyzing applies said template to one of said display format and said print format and identifies a portion of said content data when said one of said display format and said print format is produced by applying said format data to said content data.

96. (previously presented) The system of Claim 87, wherein said visual form of data represents at least one of a display format and a print format of said content data, and said template runner applies said template to one of said display format and said print format and identifies a portion of said content data when said one of said display format and said print format is produced by applying said format data to said content data.

97. (previously presented) The computer program product of Claim 92, wherein said visual form of data represents at least one of a display format and a print format of said content data, and said machine executable code that analyzes applies said template to one of said display format and said print format and identifies a portion of said content data when said one of said display format and said print format is produced by applying said format data to said content data.

98. (Currently Amended) A method for processing data ~~in a computer system~~ comprising:

receiving content data and format data wherein said format data is applied to said content data producing one of a display format and a print format of said content data;

applying a template to one of said display format and said print format of said content data when said format data is applied to said content data; and

identifying, using said template, a portion of said content data when said content data is represented in one of said display format and said print format.

99. (previously presented) The method of Claim 98, further comprising:
storing said portion of identified content data.

100. (previously presented) The method of Claim 99, wherein said template content data and said format data are different from said template.